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Page 14

PREPPING FOR POST-BUST RUSH

Volunteers at the Calgary Inter-Faith Food Bank, which is already seeing an increase in clients since Alberta's economic downturn, expect to see even more people make use of their services in the coming weeks and months. Distress Centre Calgary has also seen an increase in calls since the downturn hit. Story, page 8. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

MLA cleared of wrongdoing

Politics. PC party stands behind Naresh Bhardwaj, who is now suing the man who accused him of bribery

RYAN TUMILTY
Metro in Edmonton

The Progressive Conservative Party announced Sunday night it had cleared MLA Naresh Bhardwaj of any wrongdoing in the Edmonton-Ellerslie nomination race.

In a statement, the party said that after employing an independent investigator to look into allegations against Bhardwaj, it concluded its previous disqualification of rival candidate Balraj Manhas should stand.

Manhas withdrew from the race after the party came to him, citing problems with his nomination papers right before the Feb. 21 vote. Allegations later surfaced that Bhardwaj had tried to unfairly influence the race.

Two of Manhas' supporters alleged Bhardwaj or others acting on his behalf attempted to have them sign pre-drafted affidavits claiming their names had improperly appeared on the challenger's nomination papers. One of those supporters, Balbir Sidhu, further alleged Bhardwaj offered him $10,000 to sign the affidavit.

In addition to speaking to Metro, both of those supporters made sworn statements about the allegations. None of the allegations has been proven, and Bhardwaj is now suing Sidhu for defamation.

The party's statement said the independent investigation supported the original concerns about Manhas' nomination and said it found "significant inconsistencies" with the statements made against Bhardwaj.

Reached late Sunday, Manhas said he was deeply disappointed by the party's statement and is considering his options.

"I had faith in the leadership, but if this is a statement from the leadership, then it's very disappointing," he said.

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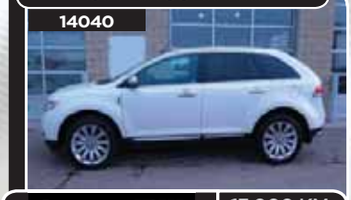
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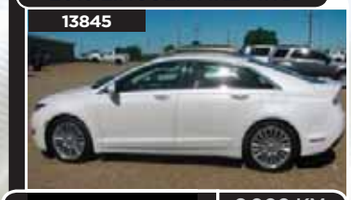
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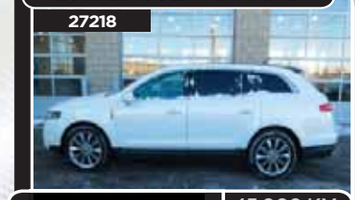
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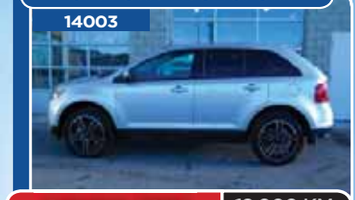
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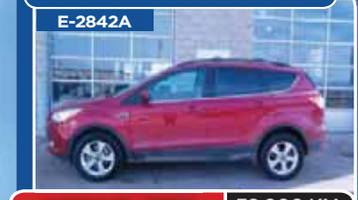
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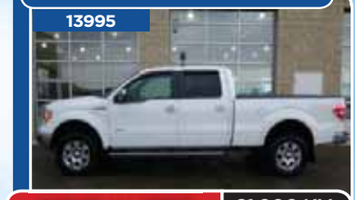
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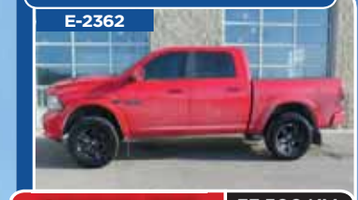
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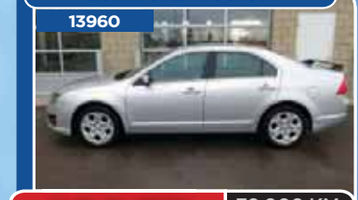
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WOOD AUTOMOTIVE GROUP

Core-area walking routes in need of facelift: Report

Infrastructure. Improvements would 'weld' Beltline, downtown, Stampede

ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

The downtown Telus Convention Centre is a mere 1.1 kilometres from the BMO Centre in Stampede Park, but Lucas Rojek says few people would even consider travelling between these two "star attractions for business" in Calgary on foot.

Those who do opt for the 14-minute walk, he noted, aren't in for the most pleasant of experiences.

"They're basically going through run-down, dilapidated-house-type areas on crumbling sidewalks," said Rojek, secretary-treasurer of Beltline Communities, which recently released a white paper on improving the pedestrian environment in the core-area collection of neighbourhoods.

The document looks largely at ways to improve pedestrian safety and experience in the densely populated area, where walking is a primary mode of transportation for many people.

But Rojek believes improved pedestrian connections in the area can go well beyond that, and also provide long-missing links between major Calgary centres that are more distant psychologically than geographically.

"You have downtown and you have the residential core of the Beltline and you have Stampede," he said. "They're interested parties and neighbourhoods, but there's no fabric to connect them all. So, what that means is they cannot build off of one another."

Coun. Evan Woolley, whose Ward 8 constituency is comprised largely of Beltline residents, said the area has the lowest rate of car ownership in the city, but still isn't the easiest to navigate on foot.

He described 17th Avenue as "our best pedestrian street" but also home to "the three most dangerous intersections in Calgary" at 4 Street, 8 Street, and 14 Street SW.

Other areas, like the north side of 10 Avenue SW, offer "despicable" walking options, Woolley added.

Chris Larsen, chair of the Beltline Transportation Group, said the white paper was aimed at highlighting "the problems, the solutions, and some of the things we think should happen" in the area as the city crafts its own, city-wide pedestrian strategy, set to go before council in the fall.

One thing that could use some immediate attention, Larsen added, is the pedestrian underpasses below the CP Rail line that link the downtown business district with the Beltline.

"They're still very substandard," Larsen said, noting that although the city has begun to improve some of the underpasses, there's a lot of work left to be done.

People walk along 17th Avenue SW in Calgary on Sunday afternoon, described by Coun. Evan Woolley as both the "best" pedestrian route in the area, yet also the most dangerous in terms of frequency of collisions. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Quoted

"You want to make the residential and commercial parts of centre city flourish by welding them together because they help each other out a lot."

Lucas Rojek, Beltline Communities

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WOOD AUTOMOTIVE GROUP

Kurdish Calgarians celebrate life of soldier killed in Iraq

Memorial. Organizer says this is the first time the community has gathered for an event of this magnitude

ANNA BROOKS
calgary@metronews.ca

Banding together in a stance of solidarity against terrorism, Calgarians gathered to celebrate Calgary Kurdish Community Halabja Memorial Day and the life of Canadian soldier Sgt. Andrew Joseph Doiron, who was killed in a friendly-fire incident in northern Iraq.

Organizer Akram Palani said this was the first time the Kurdish community has gathered for an event of this magnitude, adding that it was an important opportunity to show support for both the Kurdish and Canadian communities.

"We're very saddened by this Canadian soldier's death. This man signified peace and security for the Kurdish people," Palani said. "We are facing an extreme terrorist group in the Middle East and our families are under threat. We want to give the Canadian government our respect and ensure they continue to support us."

The memorial service also honoured a visit by Defence Minister Jason Kenney, who spoke of the terrors of the Halabja chemical attack, a genocidal massacre of the Kurdish people in 1988 conducted under the Saddam Hussein regime.

Kenney also addressed the death of Doiron, who died on March 6. Kenney said Doiron's death is a reminder that Canadians and the Kurdish people need to stick together in times of extreme brutality facing terrorist groups like ISIL (Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant).

"This is a crime against humanity and we join the Kurdish community in mourning," Kenney told the crowd. "As we mourn the loss, we recommit ourselves to the mission which he (Doiron) was dedicated."

In light of recommitting, Kenney announced the government will table a motion this week, which seeks endorsement to expand Canadian military operations against ISIL.

"The brave Kurdish people and the people of Canada are joined together in solidarity to oppose this terrible evil," Kenney said. "It is in our national interests for us to combat ISIL, and that is why I believe we should endorse the government's decision to expand military operations."

Quoted

"We're very saddened by this Canadian soldier's death. This man signified peace and security for the Kurdish people."
Organizer Akram Palani

Young Calgarians don traditional Kurdish garb for a special memorial held to honour the life of Canadian soldier Andrew Joseph Doiron, who was killed in a Kurdish friendly-fire incident on March 6. ANNA BROOKS/METRO

Three charged in homicide of teen Brando Walker

Brando Walker is seen in this Facebook image. FACEBOOK.COM

Three people are facing charges in relation to the death of 18-year-old Brando Walker, whose partially burned body was found on the Tsuu T'ina First Nation on March 7.

The Alberta RCMP Major Crimes Unit has charged 21-year-old Chad William Gosselin with accessory to murder and Dylan Steven Cameron, 20, with manslaughter.

A 15-year-old boy is also facing charges of second-degree murder.

After receiving support from prosecutors, investigators had been preparing to arrest a fourth man, Jamison Edward Childress, for first-degree murder in Walker's death.

On March 19, prosecutors were in the process of obtaining a warrant for his arrest when he was reported to have been shot and killed by U.S. Customs and Border agents at around 2:30 p.m. the same day.

Alongside Foreign Affairs and Trade Development Canada, RCMP assisted the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office with identifying Childress.

RCMP note the investigation was "complex," with homicide investigators interviewing roughly 100 individuals. METRO

Saddleridge

Police say Walker's murder took place in a residence in the Saddleridge neighbourhood of Calgary, and say the investigation into his death remains active.

- All three of the accused are set to appear in court later this month.

More low-income residents enjoying access

Social services.
Upward trend is expected to continue

ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

A city program that offers discounted recreation fees to low-income residents has seen stagnant uptake for the past five years — until it suddenly shot up by nearly seven per cent in 2014, according to a report.

A total of 27,137 Calgarians accessed the fee-assistance program last year, up from 25,452 in 2013. Between 2010 and 2013, the average uptake was virtually flat, around 25,500 per year.

The sudden upward trend is something the city expects to continue in 2015 and beyond, in part due to its new "single-entry" system, which allows low-income Calgarians to apply just once and receive the discounts at a variety of facilities.

In the past, low-income residents had to apply separately for each recreation service, a process which poverty advocates described as cumbersome and discouraging.

"There's a certain amount of crushing people's spirits if you set up a system where people feel like they have to beg," Loreen Gilmour, director of poverty initiatives and research for the United Way of Calgary and Area, previously told Metro.

The single-entry system was launched last November.

Coupled with growth in the number of community partners — such as the Calgary Zoo, Heritage Park and Talisman Centre — that accept city fee-assistance cards as proof of low-income eligibility, the report states that "community reach has been extended and support for low income Calgarians made more accessible."

The report later adds, "It is expected that the number of low-income Calgarians accessing the program will increase in future years."

At the same time, three out of every 10 Calgarians made use of one of the "preventive social and recreational services" offered through the city's community and neighbourhood services unit in 2014.

That's three times the city's "target" level for access to such programs, which are aimed at "addressing the social needs of the individuals and communities of Calgary."

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Tamara Turcotte, left, and her children Raechel, middle, and Caitlyn, right, spent Sunday cleaning Grow Calgary garden land in preparation for this year's farming season, coming up in May. ANNA BROOKS/FOR METRO

Grow Calgary hopes to fill 30K food bank hampers

ANNA BROOKS
calgary@metronews.ca

The first day of the farming season kicked off Sunday with Grow Calgary's Spring Farm Day event.

Farming manager Paul Hughes said as a prelude to Grow Calgary's third season, he wanted to get as many volunteers involved in cleaning and prepping the stretch of land out by Canada Olympic Park before May rolls around.

All the food grown at the local volunteer-run farm is donated to the Calgary Food Bank, and Hughes said last year they were able to contribute 12,000 food hampers.

Hoping to plant around five million seeds for the 2015 season, Hughes said he thinks Grow Calgary can hit 30,000 hampers this year.

"Our big goal is to become the world's largest urban agriculture and food access program," Hughes said. "Every year we've increased our production. We're not just here to grow food, but we're here to get food to people who need it."

Quoted

"We're not just here to grow food, but we're here to get food to people who need it."
Paul Hughes, Grow Calgary's farming manager

Tamara Turcotte brought her children Raechel and Caitlyn along to Spring Farm Day and said it's her first year getting involved with the initiative.

Turcotte said getting involved with Grow Calgary was not only a way for her to learn some new gardening skills, but she thought it would be a great way to introduce her children to some hands-on volunteer work.

"I want to get them involved with these kinds of things because it was never something I got to do growing up," Turcotte said. "It's for a great cause, and they get to actually see there's more out there than what they're just told."

Sexual assault

Woman attacked in her own home

The Calgary Police Service is seeking the public's help in locating a suspect in a breakin and sexual assault that occurred on Saturday morning.

Police say that at about 3:30 a.m. a woman was sleeping inside her home in the 5300 block of 26 Avenue SW. and was awoken by an unknown male on top of her.

A struggle occurred between the two. The woman was sexually assaulted, police said, and then the suspect fled.

Police believe he had gained access to the woman's home through an unlocked door.

Police describe the suspect as a clean-shaven aboriginal man, about five-foot-seven and between the ages of 28 to 33.

He was described as having a skinny build, bushy-eyebrows and a "noticeable" Adam's apple.

Police say the suspect may have injuries on his face.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the Calgary Police Service at 1-403-266-1234.

METRO

Composite sketch of suspect
COURTESY CALGARY POLICE SERVICE

Break-in

Pair sought in pepper spraying

Calgary police are searching for two suspects involved in a pepper spray incident that occurred early Sunday.

Calgary Police Service Acting Det. Martin Taylor said a call came in just before 7 a.m. from the Shark Club on 11 Street SE. Taylor said two people had broken into the establishment and deployed pepper spray after being confronted by cleaners and a Shark Club staff member.

The only details Taylor said police have to go on so far is both suspects were wearing balaclavas, and the female has been described as slim and around five-foot-five in height. The pair escaped in a white car, but police don't yet have details on the make and model.

METRO

No changes to tuition cap in coming budget, minister says

A student crosses the hall along "main street" at Mount Royal University. Administrators at the school have stalled on giving the green light to provincially approved tuition hikes in three programs. METRO FILE

Education. Students claim province isn't giving 'real answers' about cost hikes

JEREMY NOLAIS
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As students anxiously await this year's provincial budget, the provincial post-secondary minister is ruling out any immediate change to tuition regulations.

Don Scott made the pledge to student advocates in a meeting last week and reiterated it in an interview with Metro days later.

"There are no imminent changes to tuition and what I intend to do — and what I described to those student leaders — is that's going to be part of our discussion over the next several months right after the budget's release," Scott said.

The minister's comments come weeks after multiple sources confirmed that the government was considering changing the restrictions on tuition — or outright removing them. Currently, annual increases are tied to the rate of inflation.

Students have feared the changes would be used to offset potential further cuts in this week's provincial budget, one that will attempt to close a $7-billion fiscal gap. There has been foreshadowing of a similar occurrence to 2013, when the post-secondary sector specifically saw a nine per cent turnaround in once-promised Campus Alberta grant funding.

Navneet Khinda, chair of the Council of Alberta University Students, said Scott provided no "real answers" on what's happening with tuition during last week's meeting. She said the province plans to roll out a consultation process ahead of August 2016, when the current tuition cap expires.

Changes to tuition could also compound costs for students in a select group of 25 programs that were approved in December for market-modifier tuition hikes. Those increases alone will leave students on the hook for an additional $21 million annually.

But at least one school, Calgary's Mount Royal University, has stalled on implementing the hikes, and a student leader has said administrators have, instead, said they would prefer an across-the-board $50-per-program hike.

In a statement last week, Mount Royal's vice-president of administrative services Duane Anderson said talks about tuition and fees were ongoing with the university's board of governors. Full-time students at Mount Royal will already be paying an additional $80 for services this fall.

"Students can expect their tuition and fees to be finalized in short order, and we're committed to communicating any adjustments to them as soon as possible," Anderson said in a statement.

Downtown

Witnesses sought in shooting probe involving police

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT) is hoping witnesses step forward after a police-involved shooting during a rally in downtown Calgary Saturday morning.

A 30-year-old man shot by the Calgary Police Service on Saturday morning was wielding a metal pipe, according to ASIRT. The man is still in hospital in critical condition.

Police say the incident started when the man, who is known to police, approached a small anti-racism rally happening at Calgary's city hall around 11 a.m. and started causing a disturbance. He then fled on foot but was pursued by police. METRO

South of Edmonton

Train hauling potash jumps tracks: CP Rail

About 20 cars that were part of a CP Rail train hauling potash derailed Sunday south of Edmonton.

CP Rail spokesman Jeremy Berry said in an email that it happened Sunday morning, about five kilometres east of Westaskiwin.

He says there were no reports of injuries and no dangerous goods were involved in the crash. Several cars were reportedly twisted up as a result of their spill.

Potash is a common ingredient in fertilizer.

The train was headed west at the time.

Berry says the investigation into what caused the derailment is underway. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Volunteers are seen busy at work at the Calgary Inter-Faith Food Bank, which is expecting more clients in the months ahead as many struggle to make ends meet among an economic downturn that's gripped Alberta. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Support agencies expect client rush amid oil layoffs

Economy. Effects of industry slide run deep

JEREMY NOLAIS
jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

Alberta's boom-and-bust cycle gave birth to the Calgary Food Bank in the 1980s.

"We were created as a direct result of the oil economy," said spokeswoman Shawn Ogston. "We can easily say 'been there, done that.'"

History repeated itself in 2008 and now appears to be doing so again. The food bank started seeing its client numbers creep up in the fall and again in December as fiscal years came to a close and pink slips were doled out.

But the hard times haven't subsided. Just last week, Nexen Energy and Talisman Energy axed hundreds of jobs on what observers called "bloody Tuesday."

At the food bank, volunteers are bracing for a rush.

"We know that with the layoffs that are happening right now, it's going to take a couple of months for people to use up their resources," Ogston said. "Calgarians are proud — they're going to go to friends, family, extend their credit lines and then they'll really experience that crisis."

There are psychological impacts, too. Distress Centre Calgary has seen a steady upward trend in calls over the past few years, but 2015 has marked a particular point of high need with call volumes up 12 per cent over the same time period last year.

Michelle Wickerson, the centre's senior manager of organizational performance, said although there hasn't been an increase in calls directly related to employment and financial stress, those types of things can erode other areas of a person's life.

"A crisis line is usually not somebody's first line of defence, it's not the place people first go for support," she said. "They go to their friends, they go to their family, they go to those intimate relationships for support ... it's when that (employment) stress is costing them those, where they're going, 'This something I haven't dealt with before,' and they're looking for what other help is out there. That's often where we might come in."

For more information, go to calgaryfoodbank.com and distresscentre.com

Use

Food bank use on the rise:

- January 2014: 10,863 clients, 4,373 hampers
- January 2015: 11,238 clients, 4,483 hampers
- February 2014: 10,391 clients, 3,939 hampers
- February 2015: 10,813 clients, 4,272 hampers

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Quebec. Bloc intends to hold intercultural independence gathering

Days after a Parti Québécois leadership hopeful's controversial comment on immigration, Bloc Québécois leader Mario Beaulieu has announced his party's intention to hold a large intercultural gathering for independence.

In an interview with The Canadian Press, Beaulieu explained the Bloc Québécois wants to show that a large number of immigrants are in favour of Quebec's independence.

Last week, Pierre Karl Peladeau said that immigration represented a threat to the sovereigntist movement. The PQ MNA and leadership candidate later apologized for his comments, saying they were inappropriate and did not reflect his true thinking.

Without directly referring to Peladeau's remarks, Beaulieu said it was necessary to reach out to Quebecers of all origins to persuade them of the advantages of independence.

He said the national question was "the business of all Quebecers, without exception." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Israel-Palestine

Canada backs two-state solution: PM

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has reiterated Canada's support for a two-state solution for Israelis and Palestinians during a phone call to newly re-elected Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The statement from Harper's office was more muted than statements made recently by U.S. President Barack Obama, French President Francois Hollande and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. It was the first time Harper and Netanyahu had spoken since Netanyahu secured a victory on Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

$4.3M spent on medical pot for injured veterans

Health. Figures released by Veteran Affairs represent a dramatic escalation in costs, prescriptions

Clayton Goodwin inhales medicinal marijuana through a vaporizer on in Ottawa. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The cost of providing medical marijuana to the country's injured soldiers under a Veterans Affairs program jumped to more than $4.3 million this fiscal year, an increase of 10 times what was spent last year.

And the number of ex-soldiers eligible for taxpayer-funded, prescribed pot more than quadrupled to 601 patients, according to figures released by the department.

The numbers represent a dramatic escalation, even from last fall, when former veterans minister Julian Fantino was told in a briefing note that there were 224 approved cases.

At the beginning of the last budget year, there were 116 eligible veterans.

In 2013-14, the government spent $417,000 on medical marijuana for soldiers, said the briefing obtained under access-to-information legislation.

The jaw-dropping increases may represent a conundrum for Health Canada, which routinely warns against marijuana use, and the ruling Conservatives, who have ridiculed Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau's campaign for overall legalization of marijuana.

In a statement, a Veterans Affairs spokeswoman stood by the program, pointing to government documents explaining that even though the government does not want to see marijuana used as medicine, the courts have ordered patients to have access to it if prescribed.

"Marijuana for medical purposes is not an approved drug or medicine in Canada, and Health Canada does not endorse or promote the use of marijuana," said Janice Summerby.

"However, (Veterans Affairs) will support eligible veterans by reimbursing the cost of marijuana for medical purposes if their physician deems it is an appropriate treatment for the veteran's health condition and authorizes its use in accordance with Health Canada's regulations."

Throughout much of last year, there was a growing debate within the veterans department about how much would be covered by the program, introduced in 2008, and whether it should be capped or even cancelled outright.

Fantino, who has since been replaced by Erin O'Toole as minister, was presented with four options, including dropping the policy but retaining existing clients or eliminating it altogether. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Voters blunt rise of France's National Front

Politics. The far-right party is known for its opposition to immigration, radical Islam and the EU

France's governing Socialists never expected to do well in Sunday's first-round elections, and their strategy worked just as planned: Their conservative rivals took first place.

Before the elections for 2,000 local councils, the Socialists urged people to vote, hoping that turnout would blunt the rise of Marine Le Pen's far right National Front, even if it meant Nicolas Sarkozy's conservative UMP would be the victor.

Initial projections gave the UMP party 31 per cent of the vote compared with 24.5 per cent for the National Front and 19.7 per cent for the Socialists and their allies. Turnout was 51 per cent, compared with about 45 per cent in the same elections in 2011.

With little air of a man in third place, Prime Minister Manuel Valls was the first to praise the far right party's defeat.

"This evening, the extreme right, even it is too high, is not at the forefront of French politics," Valls said. "When we mobilize the French, it works."

Le Pen was nowhere on the ballots herself, but her National Front is trying to build a grassroots army of local officials to buttress her presidential ambitions in 2017.

France's council elections are in two rounds, so victory Sunday determines which candidates can contest a second vote March 29. The Socialists, which currently control the majority of the councils, are deeply unpopular after the government's failure to turn around France's economy. Both they and the UMP are torn by infighting, leaving the National Front something of an open field for the first round.

But both the Socialists and UMP, normally rivals, have issued dire warnings about France's future under a resurgent National Front, whose opposition to immigration, radical Islam, and the European Union has helped transform the party from a pariah under Le Pen's father. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Funeral for Afghan woman beaten to death by Kabul mob

Afghan women's rights activists carry the coffin of 27-year-old Farkhunda — an Afghan woman who was beaten to death by a mob — at her funeral, in Kabul, Afghanistan, Sunday. Hundreds of people gathered in northern Kabul for the funeral of Farkhunda, who like many Afghans is known by only one name. She was killed late Thursday by a mob of mostly men who beat her, set her body on fire and then threw it into the Kabul River, according to police accounts. Police are still investigating what prompted the mob assault.

MASSOUD HOSSAINI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tunisia

Forces pursue third attacker in museum assault

A third attacker in the deadly assault on the Bardo museum is on the run, Tunisia's president said Sunday, declaring his country at war with the extremists who killed 21 people at one of North Africa's most revered cultural institutions.

President Beji Caid Essebsi said the attack involved "three aggressors" and the third man escaped. He was speaking live with French network iTele from inside the museum, its elaborate tile work visible behind him.

Tunisia's Interior Ministry released security camera footage of Wednesday's attack showing two gunmen walking through the museum, carrying assault rifles and bags. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Central African Republic

Extremists attack villages

A group of heavily armed Muslim extremists attacked several villages in Central African Republic over the weekend, killing at least 11 people, a villager said Sunday.

Central African Republic has been rocked by sectarian violence since 2013. That year, mostly Muslim Seleka rebels seized power, and their brutal rule led to the rise of Christian militias that unleashed a wave of violence against Muslims. UN and French troops are now trying to stabilize the country. Targeted attacks against Muslims are subsiding, although tensions remain.

As calm returns, Muslims who fled the attacks have begun to trickle home, and 10 mosques have reopened in the capital, Bangui, in recent weeks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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FLAMES vs AV

A radio-controlled drone during an International Drone Day event in Roseburg, Ore., earlier this month. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Drones

First-of-its-kind park in the U.S. creates a buzz

The first unmanned-aircraft business park in the United States is still several weeks away from the start of construction, but backers of the project say many companies are showing interest.

The 1.2-million-square-foot park is called Grand Sky.

The facility will have space for hangars, offices, shops, laboratories and data centres.

It is located on the Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., which is home to an unmanned-aircraft mission.

Defence technology giant Northrop Grumman, based in Falls Church, Va., has already signed a letter of intent to anchor the park, which is expected to create thousands of jobs.

One company looking to get in on the ground floor of Grand Sky is Smart C2.

The president of the software business says the park should help small businesses grow into valuable companies.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Starbucks U.S. ends in-store 'Race Together' campaign

A barista at a Starbucks store in Seattle puts a "Race Together" sticker on a customer's cup earlier this month. As of Sunday, Starbucks in the U.S. has ended the visible component of its diversity and racial inequality campaign. But the coffee chain's initiative will continue more broadly without the handwritten messages. The campaign has been criticized as opportunistic and inappropriate, coming in the wake of racially charged events such as national protests over police killings of black men. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Ottawa spent $24M to buff its oil image

Campaign. Ads not designed to sway people about Keystone XL, one official says

The multimillion-dollar campaign to market Canadian oil in the U.S. was hard to miss.

The Maple Leaf was plastered on the walls of subway stops in Washington, D.C., and it popped up in all sorts of American publications, with such messages as "America's Best Energy Partner" and "Friends and Neighbors."

Documents obtained by The Canadian Press offer a peek at the behind-the-scenes strategic considerations in 2013, as the government conducted a $1.6-million US ad campaign that grew into a $24-million, two-year program that wraps up this month.

The records, released under the Access to Information Act, reveal the websites to be shunned as advertising outlets; the Internet search words that would trigger a Canadian energy ad; the coveted locations for billboards in Washington, D.C.; the rejected proposals; and the U.S. ad salespeople who angled for a slice of the publicity pie.

Throughout the two-year campaign, the Keystone issue remained unresolved. But that doesn't mean it failed, defenders say. In fact, the ads didn't mention Keystone. The original call for tenders spelled out the mission: to defend Canadian energy's reputation against hostile groups and lawmakers threatening anti-oilsands measures.

A separate budget was used for gauging the public response — $58,335 for an initial focus group and $49,393 later for a poll.

The poll showed most D.C. respondents had seen the ads. They didn't quite agree, however, on what they'd seen. The most popular takeaway message, at 17 per cent, was that Canada and the U.S. were friends and energy partners. Building Keystone XL got 11 per cent. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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VOICES

PC 'AURA OF POWER' ALIVE AND WELL

Prentice is our own provincial saviour and, if you're a non-believer, it's bizarre to see respected community leaders drop everything to follow Him

KLASZUS' CALGARY
Jeremy Klaszus

What do former Calgary police chief Rick Hanson, former Wildrose leader Danielle Smith and former Calgary arts leader Terry Rock have in common?

Not much, beyond the fact that all three spent years building immense credibility in their respective fields. But now all three are eager converts to Jim Prentice's PCs, and it kind of turns the stomach. All three should know better. The PC track record, whether on health care or fiscal planning, is abysmal. One recent example: in 2008, the PCs dismantled regional health authorities, consolidating them into one central super-board. Now some new epiphany has led them to backtrack and recreate health districts once again.

With each new leader, the PCs take no responsibility for what came before. "I'm not going to defend what happened in the past," Prentice said in announcing the re-decentralization last week. "I wasn't the premier at the time." You know, under new management and all that.

Alison Redford had an infamous "aura of power." The PCs would have us believe it left with her. It didn't. It's just been dressed over with Prentice's odd messianic charisma, a quality readily apparent to some but invisible to others.

Prentice is our own provincial saviour and, if you're a non-believer, it's bizarre to see respected community leaders drop everything to follow Him.

When Smith led a mass defection, she suggested Prentice had rendered her party redundant. He was everything Wildrose had hoped for, apparently.

There's no longer any need for dogged exposure of the PCs' many abuses of power. Come unto me, Prentice said, and I will give you rest. My yoke is easy and my burden is light. So they went, meek as sheep.

Hanson dropped a four-decade career in policing to follow Prentice. One day he was Calgary's widely respected top cop, and literally the next day he was at a podium beside Prentice, announced as the PC candidate for Calgary-Cross.

"The reason I'm doing this is because of the premier," Hanson told the Calgary Sun. "I believe in what he stands for."

That's interesting, because those of us who lack faith have no idea what exactly Prentice stands for. And what about Rock, the urban arts visionary?

"Jim Prentice's principled leadership and vision for the future of Alberta is what convinced me to take the plunge into politics," he has said.

He, too, sees something some of us simply cannot.

All three will have their own justifications. But they should recall what happened in February when a PC-dominated legislature committee decided to restore a previously cut chunk of funding to the auditor general.

Prentice made known his displeasure with the committee's decision. He sent his flock a message they couldn't miss: If ye love me, keep my commandments.

The sheep murmured assent, promptly reversing their decision and clawing the money back. The "aura of power" is alive and well in Alberta. Hanson, Smith and Rock better get used to it.

Your Calgary

Street art adds colour

Metro reader Pavan Mane created this image at city hall, casting a vibrant mural against a black-and-white background.

Photo submitted by Metro reader Pavan Mane

SEE YOUR SHOT HERE: Send us high-quality snaps of your city to readers@metronews.ca

Upcoming

One act is all it takes

Calgarians looking to get a quick theatre fix are in luck.

Pumphouse Theatre will host its annual One Act Play Festival from March 25 to 28.

According to the theatre's website, the event features plays that are strictly one-act in length and serves as a qualifying event for young theatre companies. Out of the seven companies set to perform at this year's event, one play will be chosen by a professional adjudicator to represent the city at the Provincial One Act Festival.

Festival events begin nightly at 7:30 at the Victor Mitchell Theatre. METRO

Sentencing for animal abuser set to come down this week

A potential sentencing for a man convicted of the brutal death of two animals in 2014 may be delivered in a Calgary courtroom on Monday morning.

Nicolino Ivano Camardi pleaded guilty to two counts of wilfully causing unnecessary pain, suffering or injury to an animal in December 2014 after he killed a Siberian husky and a shorthaired domestic cat, taping their muzzles shut and leaving them in an alley in the 200 Block of 99th Avenue S.E., just a week apart.

Medical examinations found the husky died from starvation and had been "chronically malnourished" while the cat died as a result of asphyxia from a number of injuries to its head, tail and hind limbs. Camardi was charged with the offences in May and has remained in custody since his arrest. METRO

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Introducing the 'smelfie'

Kim Kardashian's famous #belfie. INSTAGRAM/KIMKARDASHIAN

Adam Hill started the "smelfie" trend. TWITTER/@ADAMHILLSCOMEDY

A cute #felfie, or the selfie with a farm animal. INSTAGRAM/ELLIEB2781

The #delfie, or selfie with a dog, may be the most adorable of them all. INSTAGRAM/CARLEYFORTUNE

Culture. The popularity of the selfie has spawned a seemingly endless variety of wacky offshoots

DEBORAH HERNANDEZ
Metro in Toronto

Confused about all of the selfies showing men holding soiled diapers on Twitter lately?

The "smelfie" is a new breed of selfie that started when Adam Hill, an Australian comedian and father, tweeted a photo of himself making a sour face while holding up his daughter's soiled diaper and hashtagged it #smelfie.

But, why is social media so obsessed with selfies (and its other popular variations)?

Marcel Danesi, a professor of anthropology at the University of Toronto, says it's because selfies allow people to share their experiences and their true "self" with the world.

"We have this need to assert ourselves," Danesi says, "and technology gives us a chance to do this much more regularly and spread it broadly."

The need to share one's thoughts, opinions and photos isn't anything new, but is the ever-growing trend of selfie sharing a sign that society has become too narcissistic?

"Narcissism has existed since the ancient world," Danesi explains. "Selfies allow an expression of this by the individual. There's no need to go to a portrait painter or professional photographer anymore."

These days, many social media users post photos of themselves in the most mundane situations, such as #postworkoutselfie or #iwokeuplikedis, which Danesi says is because everyone believes — or wants to believe — that people care about who we are.

"It's a way of making your mark in the world," he adds.

It could be our way of saying, "look at my world. Look at my situation and try to understand what I'm going through."

Navigate the crazy world of selfies

The belfie
According to Vogue, we're in the era of the big booty and the number of people posting belfies (selfies of butts) seems to have proven this right.

There's even a "belfie stick," a bendable, titanium steel stick that allows users to take pictures of their behinds that you can purchase for $79.99.

But, if you're in the market for one, you'll have to wait a bit longer since the 'Belfie Stick' is currently out of stock.

The #postworkoutselfie
Show off your body and healthy lifestyle to the world with this type of selfie. The #postworkoutselfie often includes gym mirrors and bodies encased in tight workout clothes, glistening with sweat.

The #iwokeuplikedis/ #nomakeupselfie
In her song Flawless, Beyoncé sings, "I woke up like dis" about a dozen times, generating a selfie trend where people now post what they look like after just waking up.

Often users share photos of themselves looking far too flawless to be believed or hilariously honest with major bed-head.

The #pelfie / #delfie / #felfie
Possibly the most adorable selfie of all, the #pelfie is a selfie with a pet. It's cousins are the #delfie (selfie with a dog) and the felfie (selfie with a farm animal).

The #cryingselfie
Crying selfies break away from the mould by showing people in some of their most unhappy moments and although some people find these photos inappropriate and uncomfortable to look at, posting them might be cathartic for some users.

MIND THE APP
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
scene@metronews.ca

Downloads of the week

This week we look at Lost Sounds, Terry Pratchett and S.T.E.A.M.

App

Adventures of Poco Eco – Lost Sounds

iPhone/iPad
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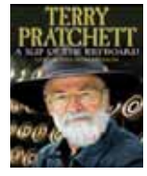
In this electronica relaxation adventure, you can navigate a beautiful dreamscape of totem animals and puzzle paths to unlock a free album for download using chill synths,

Ebooks

A Slip Of The Keyboard

By Terry Pratchett

Kindle/iBooks/Kobo



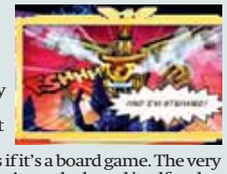
In this collection of musings, speeches, and essays, Pratchett aims his humour at nuclear power stations, floppy hats, Alzheimer's, orangutans, and others things unrelated to his much-loved DiscWorld fantasy series, making this a fine way to remember the celebrated author or perhaps even meet him for the very first time.

Video game

Code name S.T.E.A.M.

For. Nintendo 3DS

Rated. Teen



In this wacky battle between American literary characters and invading aliens, you point and shoot as normal, but must move everyone and take turns as if it's a board game. The very difficult twist is that you can't see the board itself and so must rely on memory and guesswork for tactical planning. The 12 unlockable characters have inventive weapons, but I wish they had a more lively story.

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- Bow Valley Square
- Calgary Eaton Centre
- Chinook Centre
- Crowfoot Crossing
- Deerfoot Meadows
- Harvest Hills Crossing
- Market Mall
- Marlborough Mall
- North Hill Shopping Centre
- Northland Village
- Saddletowne Circle
- Shawnessy Village
- Southcentre Mall
- Sunridge Mall
- Westbrook Mall

CANMORE
- 105 – 802 Bow Valley Trail

EDMONTON
- 17551 – 100th Ave.N.W.
- 14822 Stony Plain Rd.
- 18559 Stony Plain Rd.
- Abbottsfield Shoppers Mall
- Bonnie Doon Shopping Centre
- Christy's Corner
- Currents of Windermere
- Edmonton City Centre
- Kingsway Garden Mall
- Londonderry Mall
- Meyokumin Retail Centre
- Mill Woods Town Centre
- Namao Centre South
- Northgate Centre
- Oliver Square
- RioCan Meadows
- South Edmonton Common
- South Park Centre
- Southgate Mall
- Terra Losa Shopping Centre
- West Edmonton Mall
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- Clearwater Landing
- Peter Pond Shopping Centre
- Stoneycreek Village

GRANDE PRAIRIE
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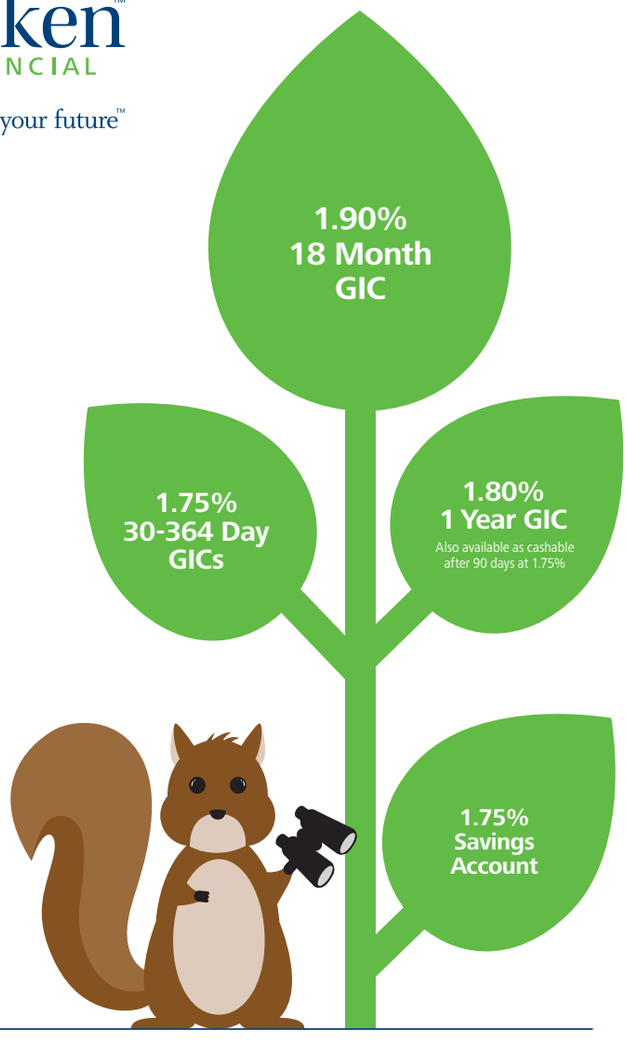

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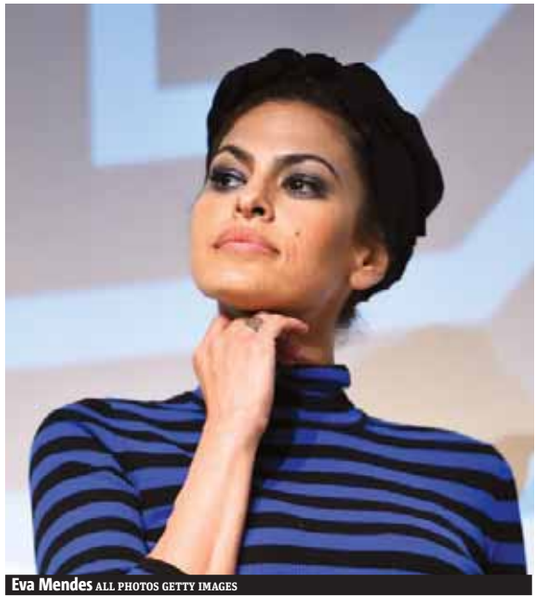
Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



Eva Mendes ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

What a Croc! Mendes issues joke apology over joke

Eva Mendes came under fire last week for joking that sweatpants are the "No. 1 cause of divorce in America," because obviously we've exhausted all other topics over which to get outraged. To quell the public indignation, Mendes and partner Ryan Gosling struck out on social media to assure all of their commitment to dressing for comfort, not style. First, Mendes posted an ode to her "favourite pair of sweatpants" on Instagram, apologizing for forsaking them.

"Dear favourite pair of sweatpants. I was just kidding when I said you're the #1 cause of divorce.

Everyone knows that orange Crocs are the No. 1 cause of divorce. Either way it was a bad joke and feel terrible if you or anyone thought I was serious. Thanks for understanding sweatpants. Sorry orange Crocs."

Then Gosling chimed in himself with some well-earned wisdom for others about how to live in polite society.

"Word to the wise. Don't joke about sweatpants or North Korea. Real hot button issues. Trust me," he tweeted.

"Obviously sweatpants thing was a joke. Wearing them now. That's right, tweeting in sweatpants. Rats! Said too much! You win again Twitter."

Personally, I'd wager that a lack of a sense of humour is the bigger threat to happiness, so lighten up, everybody.

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GAIL VAZ-OXLADE
Gail blogs daily at gailvazoxlade.com

Saving is a lost art. You'd think that with all the yada-yada about how important it is to save, what a big deal RRSPs and TFSAs are, and the scant resources we'll have if we count on the government, that we'd all be squirrelling away money for the future at a wicked pace. We're not.

So much of the blah blah blah about building up a stash of cash for the future centres on the next big investment that will get you to where you want to be. If it's really so easy to be a successful investor, why aren't there more of 'em?

If what's stopping you from saving is the sense of "I don't know what to do with the money once I've saved it," I can reassure you that deciding what to invest in isn't as hard as you might think. Forget about analytics and market timing, forget about what was hot last year. You're going to focus on these three things:

Define savings

If you're sticking money away for a vacation, for gifts, for car insurance, that's not savings; it's planned spending

It may be time to update that piggy-bank savings strategy. ISTOCK

•When you'll need the money.

•How willing you are to lose money because investments can take a dive.

•How knowledgeable you are about investing.

If you won't need the money for 10 years or more, the world in your oyster. You can buy just about everything going.

If you're willing to take chances — you win some, you lose some — then you have to figure out how much 'lose some' you can stand. All of it: you're a risk taker; none of it: stick with sure and steady. If you can't explain what you're thinking of buying to a 12-year-old, you can't buy it.

But that doesn't mean you can't be an investor. Everyone can be an investor. Earning even a sad .25 per cent on your savings account makes you an investor, albeit a lazy one. And if you have a stomach for more risk, learn about indexed investing and get busy.

Investing isn't the biggest barrier to building up a nest egg. People often misunderstand what "saving" is. Saving is "not spending money" and if you want to have "savings" you have to take the money you didn't spend and put it somewhere to accumulate for the future. If you're sticking money away for a vacation, for gifts, for car insurance, that's not savings; it's "planned spending."

It's smart to accumulate money for big spends right along with your day-to-day needs, but it's not savings. Unless it's going into an emergency fund, a long-term savings — think retirement or school — it's not "savings."

Saving a measly four per cent of your income isn't going to get you to where you want to be. With 35 years or less to your retirement date, you need to be socking away 10 per cent. With 25 years or less, if you haven't saved any money, you need to be squirrelling away 18 per cent of your income.

Money is an exhaustible resource. It runs out. If you want to have some for later, you've got to avoid spending some now. Begin developing the saving habit and you're heading in the right direction. Momentum will carry you along.

Ultimately, how much you save and how long you save are just as important as what you do with those savings.

Slow and steady savings

If you don't leave yourself enough time for your money to do some of the heavy lifting — I'm talking compounding here — you're doing yourself a huge disservice. Start saving in your 20s and your money will grow, grow, grow.

- Assume you make $45,000 a year, save 10 per cent, a month, and earn 3 per cent return on your money on average, and don't have to pay tax on the income (you've put the money in a TFSA or RRSP):
- Start at 25 and by retirement, (assuming it's at age 65) you'll have $357,441, $172,941 of which came from interest.
- Start at 35 and you'll have $226,594, $87,094 of which came from interest.
- Start at 45 and you'll have $129,623, $35,123 of which came from interest.

Playing your way back to good health

Rehab video game. Romanian software developer hopes to turn a painful process into enjoyable activity played on your Xbox

A broken arm as a boy led Cosmin Mihaiu and some inventive colleagues to turn tedious physical rehabilitation exercises into a game that they hope can make it easier for people to recover from injuries.

The Romania-born software engineer demonstrated the game last week at the prestigious TED Conference in Vancouver, showing how it can be played on the motion-sensing video game platform Kinect for Micosoft's Xbox.

"We need to come up with solutions to get patients motivated to get better," Mihaiu told AFP. "No one likes treatment, but if we can make it in a way where people don't think it is cumbersome they will get better faster and save costs."

Mihaiu and his colleagues devised the software application to work with physical therapists to customize motion-control games to reward patients for doing prescribed movements. The system, called MIRA (Medical Interactive Recovery Assistant), is currently designed for play offline in clinics.

Its makers plan to create an online version that people could use at home, with performance data shared with therapists. "We don't want to replace physical therapists. We want to develop a digital pill that can be prescribed to help the patient get better," Mihaiu said.

MIRA is being tried in clinics in Britain and Romania, with an annual subscription price of several thousand dollars, Mihaiu said. He added that there is a large market in the rehabilitation industry because unlike consumer-focused fitness games, medical games come with endorsement and followup by doctors, nurses or therapists. AFP

Those following suit

Ubisoft in early March unveiled a tablet video game crafted as a prescription for a medical condition known as "lazy eye," blending the worlds of play and treatment. The France-based video game titan also created Dig Rush in collaboration with U.S. health technology startup Amblyotech, using treatment technology from innovators at Canada's McGill University.

The game targets amblyopia, a condition in which a person's eye and brain are out of sync. It is reported to affect three percent of the global population. The game is like a "syringe of the future; where you use a visual display to administer a drug to a patient," Amblyotech chief executive Joseph Koziak said at a game developers conference in San Francisco.

Software engineer and TED Fellow Cosmin Mihaiu shows off a MIRA Rehab game designed to make typically tedious physical rehabilitation exercises fun. AFP PHOTO/GLENN CHAPMAN

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Soba so good as versatile noodle salad

Asian Soba Noodle Salad. Coconut milk and peanut-dressed veggies and noodles make a colourful starter or main

ROSE REISMAN
For more, visit rosereisman.com or follow her on twitter @rosereisman

Soba noodles are Japanese noodles made of buckwheat and wheat flour. They are perfect to use in either hot or cold pasta dishes and don't soak up the sauce as quickly as regular pasta. Combine them with a coconut-peanut dressing and a variety of vegetables to make this great appetizer or main course.

Always purchase natural peanut butter, which has nothing but nuts. Processed peanut butter contains icing sugar and can be hydrogenated. Almond butter is also a great substitute.

Directions

Salad

1. Bring a large saucepan of water to a boil and cook the noodles for 3 to 5 minutes or until tender. Drain. Rinse under cold running water and drain again.
2. Combine the noodles, snow peas, red pepper, green onion, cilantro and peanuts in a large serving bowl.

Dressing

1. To make the dressing: Combine the coconut milk, peanut butter, soy sauce, vinegar, sesame oil, sesame seeds, garlic, brown sugar, ginger and chili sauce in a bowl or a small food processor.
2. Whisk or process the mixture until smooth. Pour the dressing over the vegetable-noodle mixture and toss to coat.

THE BEST OF ROSE REISMAN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN

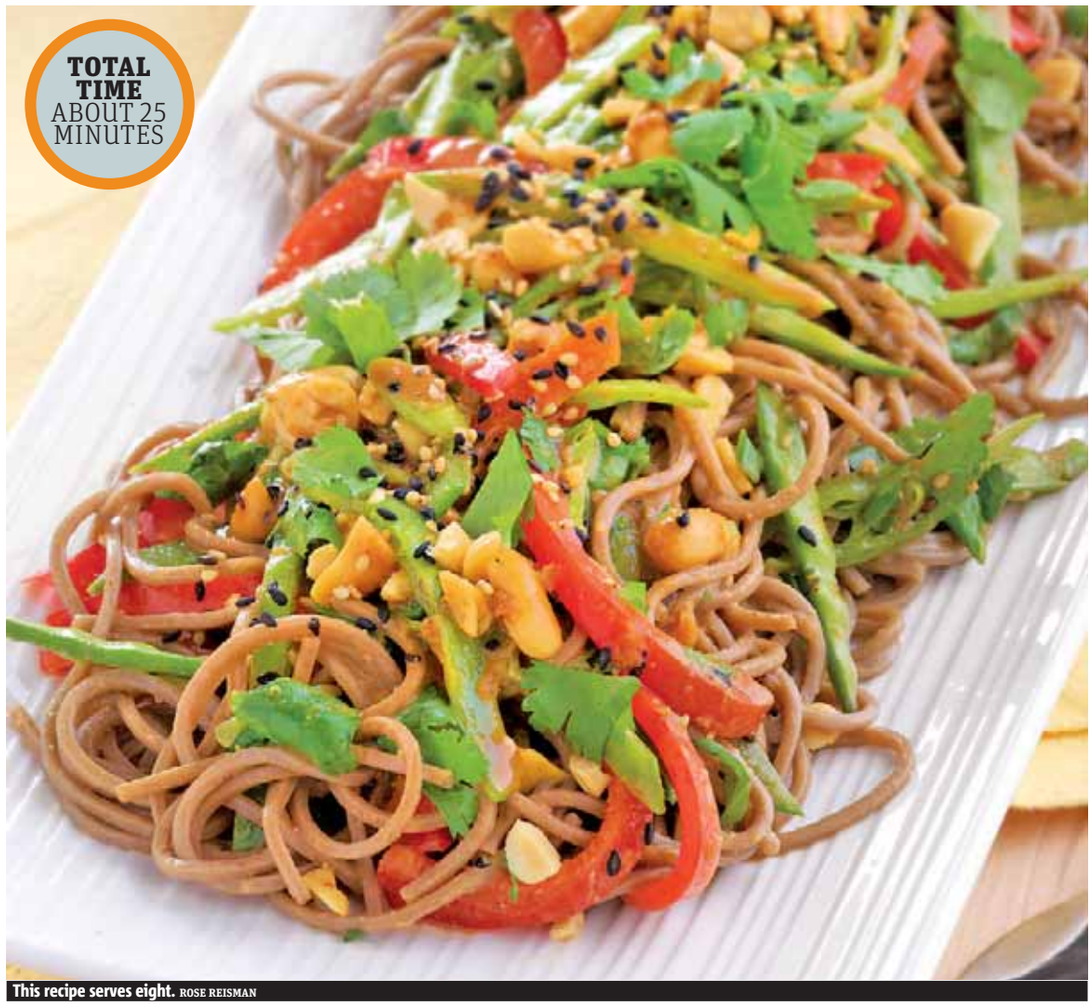
Ingredients

Salad

- 8 oz thin soba noodles
- 1 1/2 cups finely chopped snow peas
- 1 1/2 cups finely chopped red bell pepper
- 1/2 cup finely chopped green onion
- 1/3 cup chopped cilantro or parsley
- 1/4 cup chopped peanuts

Dressing

- 1/2 cup light coconut milk
- 3 tbsp natural peanut butter
- 2 tbsp low-sodium soy sauce
- 2 tbsp rice vinegar
- 1 tbsp sesame oil
- 1 tbsp toasted sesame seeds
- 2 tsp minced fresh garlic
- 2 tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tsp minced fresh ginger
- 1 tsp hot chili sauce, or to taste



This recipe serves eight. ROSE REISMAN

Swiss rink denies Jones gold medal

Curling. Canada takes silver at world championship, earning sixth straight medal

Canada's Jennifer Jones yells as the team plays Switzerland during the second end of the final match in the women's World Curling Championships in Sapporo, northern Japan, Sunday. SHIZUO KAMBAYASHI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jennifer Jones kept Canada's medal streak alive at the women's world curling championship, but she wasn't able to end the country's gold-medal drought.

The Winnipeg skip lost 5-3 to Switzerland's Alina Patz in Sunday's championship game, a loss that also ended her bid to become the first reigning Olympic champion to win Canadian and world titles the following season.

Jones, third Kaitlyn Lawes, second Jill Officer and lead Dawn McEwen dug themselves a hole early, unable to put any points on the board until the seventh end and spotting Patz a 4-0 lead.

"I wish we could start the game over again, but that's just not the way the game goes," said Jones. "We left it all on the ice, and I couldn't really ask for ourselves to do anything more than that. We did push them, and I'm proud of the girls for that."

Quoted

"I wish we could start the game over again, but that's just not the way the game goes."

Canadian skip Jennifer Jones, whose rink at one point trailed 4-0 against Switzerland in the championship match.

It's the sixth straight year a Canadian team has reached the podium at the tournament, a streak that no other country can currently match. But gold has been elusive with Jones being the last Canadian champion in 2008.

Despite the slow start, Jones was poised for a comeback in the 10th end as Patz was facing four Canadian counters when she drew to the button with her final shot.

"We made her make a good shot for the win," said Jones. "We kind of spotted them four points that I'd like back, but we hung in there and made a good game of it. All the power to them — she made a great draw to the button to win the world championship."

After a blanked first, Patz had a rare miss in the second when she was heavy on a draw to the four-foot for two and had to settle for a single.

But Jones returned the favour in the third when she was wide with her last-rock takeout, resulting in a rollout and a stolen point for Switzerland.

The Canadians would blank the next two ends and then went hard for the deuce in the sixth. But Lawes was light and tight with a come-around attempt and the Swiss were able to put two rocks into the top four. Jones elected to draw the four-foot and was heavy, resulting in a stolen deuce for Switzerland.

Canada would finally hit the scoreboard with two in the seventh end, and then would pull off a steal in the ninth to cut the margin to one. But it wasn't enough as Patz secured Switzerland's third gold in four years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Desperate Kings look to Richards for a spark

The Los Angeles Kings recalled Mike Richards from their AHL affiliate on Sunday, two months after the high-profile demotion of the $69-million centre.

Mike Richards
GETTY IMAGES

The defending Stanley Cup champions added the veteran to their low-scoring lineup before opening a five-game East Coast road trip with their playoff hopes in the balance.

After three losses in their past four games, the Kings (34-23-14) sit two points behind Calgary for third place in the Pacific Division when they visit the New Jersey Devils on Monday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canucks get late winner from Edler

Alexander Edler's shot glanced off the post, then bounced off goaltender Mike Smith's back and into the net with 3:13 left. That snapped a tie, as the Vancouver Canucks avoided a second loss to Arizona with a 3-1 victory Sunday.

The second-place Canucks moved four points ahead of idle Calgary in the Pacific Division.

Yannick Weber scored in the first period and Henrik Sedin added an empty-netter with 1:09 left.

Oliver Ekman-Larsson scored for Arizona.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Casey sings Nash's praises

NBA. Raptors coach says he admired star Canadian player who retired on the weekend

Dwane Casey never had the pleasure of coaching Steve Nash, but admired the Canadian's game from afar.

"(Nash) means so much to the game and I know so much to this country. He should be a beacon light for how the point guard position should be played for young kids in this country and in the U.S.," Casey said.

The Toronto Raptors hosted the New York Knicks on Sunday, but thoughts were on Nash prior to tip-off, a day after the face of Canadian basketball announced his retirement in an eloquent letter.

"(I appreciated) his unselfish play, the way he plays pass-first. Just his overall demeanour, he's a good man. His heart is in the right place. He's about the team, he's about winning. There is not a selfish bone in his body," Casey said.

Casey, who was an assistant in Dallas before coming to Toronto, said a lot of what he knew of Nash came from Nash's good friend and former teammate Dirk Nowitzki. The Mavericks forward "loved" Nash, Casey said.

"The stories I heard in Dallas ... how he helped keep Dirk's confidence up when they were two 'stiffs', so to speak, coming into the league," Casey said.

Nash's announcement wasn't surprising — the veteran point guard had played in just 65 games over the last three seasons with the Los Angeles Lakers due to injuries. Back and nerve issues prevented the 41-year-old from hitting the court at all in what would have been his 19th NBA season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Career statistics

2 - NBA's Most Valuable Player awards

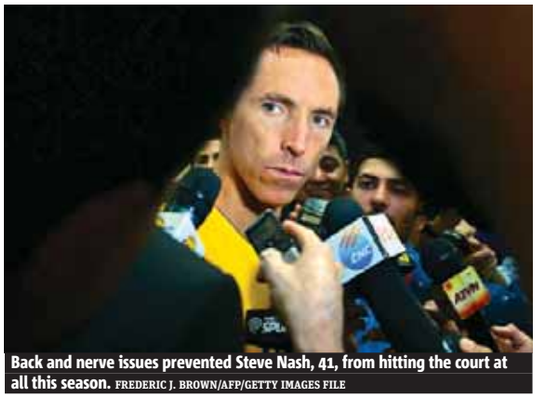
5 - Seasons he led the league in assists

8 - Number of times he was named an NBA all-star

14.3 - Career points-per-game average

18.8 - Career season-high points average

17,387 - Total points scored in his career



Back and nerve issues prevented Steve Nash, 41, from hitting the court at all this season. FREDERIC J. BROWN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Golf

Every makes it two in a row at Palmer Invitational

Matt Every won the Arnold Palmer Invitational for the second straight year, making an 18-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole at Bay Hill to beat Henrik Stenson and earn trip to the Masters.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NCAA

Long-awaited win for Shockers

The boys from Wichita State had been hearing it in text messages from friends, and on social media from total strangers: Don't let the chance to stick it to Kansas slip away.

The Shockers would never dream of it.

Finally getting a chance to play the school that continually spurns them, Fred VanVleet and the rest of the Missouri Valley champs rolled to a 78-65 victory over the second-seeded Jayhawks on Sunday, earning a trip to the Sweet 16 in the sweetest way possible.

"There's so much to be said about this rivalry with Kansas," VanVleet said, "but really, it's all about the fans. What better story is there for Wichita State?"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Knicks crushed in Toronto

The Toronto Raptors to won 106-89 over the lowly New York Knicks on Sunday.

DeMar DeRozan led by example with a team-high 23 points, including a couple of huge dunks, while Tyler Hansbrough added a season-high 18 points. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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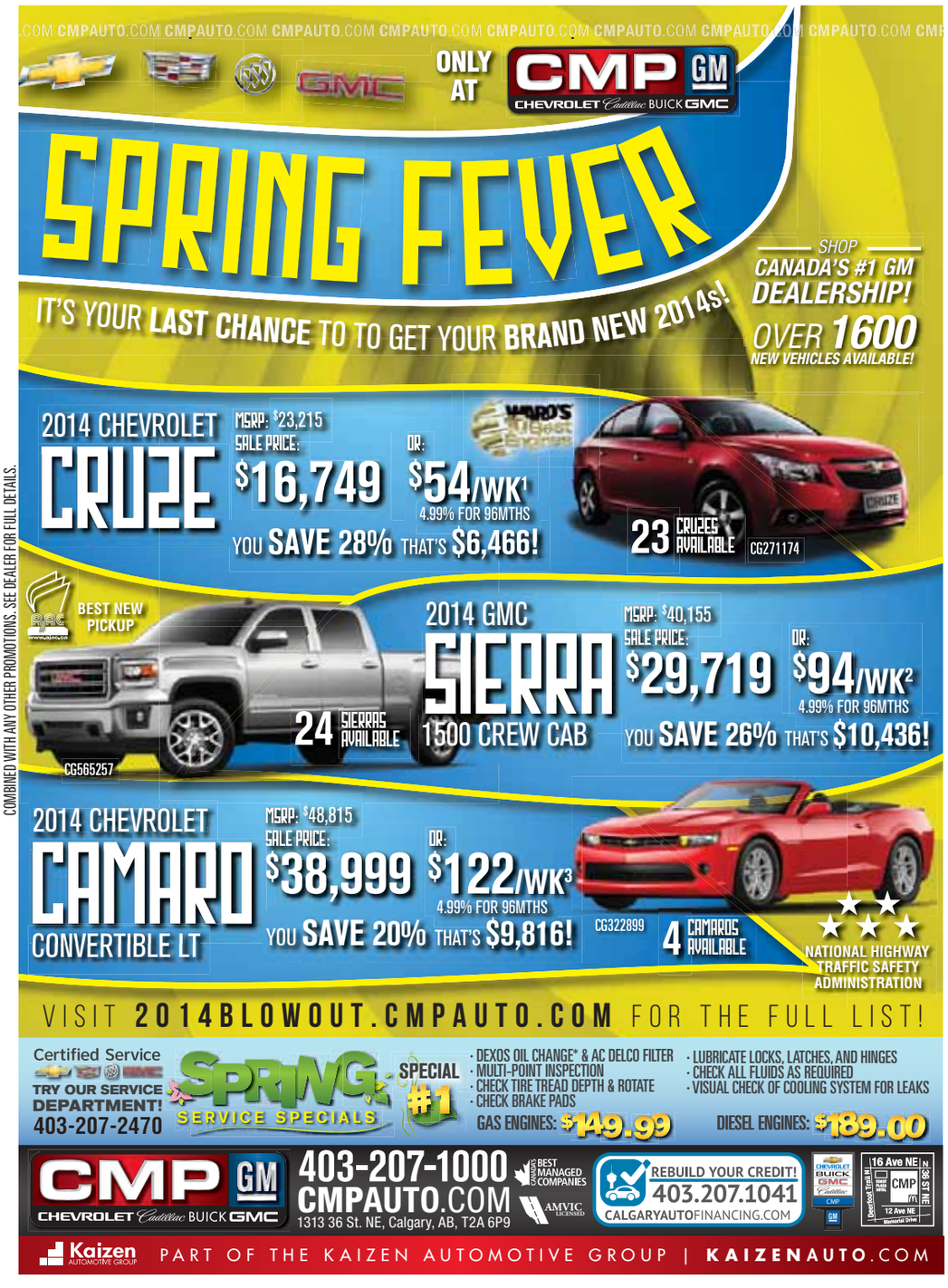
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AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Make sure you know what you are talking about because if you make things up you are sure to be found out.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
There seems to be a lot of self doubt in your mind, which is not like you. Prove you have what it takes by taking the sort of risk you would usually avoid — and be a star.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You will find it hard to hide your emotions. Even if you keep your mouth shut your body language will give you away. That's good. Let others know you have feelings, too.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Try not to be too aggressive even if you think it is justified, especially in money-related matters. Don't upset people whose support you may need in the near future.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Go above and beyond the call of duty. Your efforts will be rewarded in the long-term and you will feel good about yourself right now.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You may feel trapped by certain obligations, but now you must keep them. If you don't, your reputation could suffer damage it takes many months to repair.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Your head may be full of big ideas but this is not a good time to push too hard. You will achieve more in the long term if you go with the flow.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Everyone seems to know what is best for you. And everyone is wrong. Only you can decide on your next move. Make it a bold one.

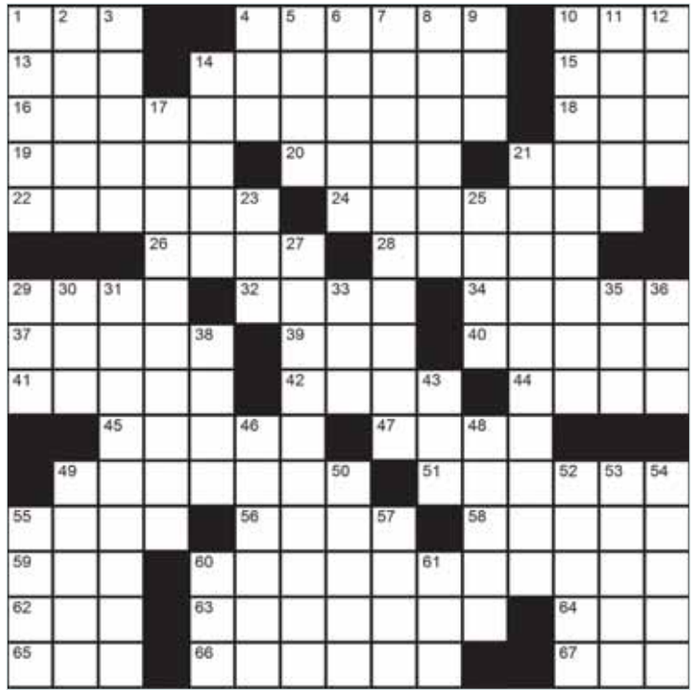
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Something you say may hurt a friend's feelings but don't worry about it because they are not as weak as they like to make out. Call it as you see it.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You like to prove yourself but don't upset people in positions of authority over the next 24 hours — the results could be painful.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You may be adventurous by nature but try not to expose yourself to situations that could become difficult, or even dangerous.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
The universe wants you to throw caution to the wind and do something that takes everyone by surprise. Sometimes others doubt you will ever be dynamic enough to succeed — but you're about to prove them wrong.

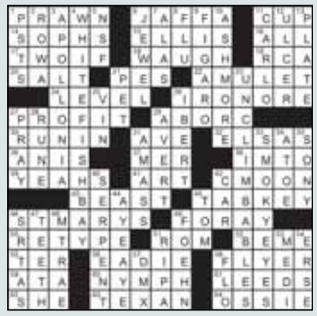
Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across
1. Internet hookup letters
4. Wild canine
10. 'Most Wanted' org.
13. "Take __, _ insist."
14. Paul __, The Poseidon Adventure novelist
15. Permit
16. NCC = Nature __ of Canada
18. Unwell
19. Too snug
20. Military assistant
21. Recount
22. Skedaddles
24. Pierre Trudeau would stylishly wear one in his lapel: 2 wds.
26. Observer
28. Raises
29. Ladder step
32. Pulls the car
34. Young salmon
37. "We're on _ __ to nowhere." — Talking Heads
39. Texter's giggle
40. Ms. Hunt
41. Verdi opera, La __ del destino
42. Some jeans
44. Ouis opposites
45. Sad tune
47. Mon., on Tues.
49. Acknowledge, perhaps after being in denial
51. Reaches a baseball base this way
55. Guzzle
56. Many
58. Not suitable
59. Deceive
60. CSA = Canadian __ __
62. Egos and __
63. Restraints
64. North or South country [abbr.]
65. Furry friend
66. Like a product with a big red tag: 2 wds.
67. 'Ear'-meaning prefix

Down
1. Word meanings bks.
2. Unflappable
3. Jargon
4. Pickles holder
5. Thomas Edison's middle name
6. Debussy's "__ de Lune"
7. Saskatchewan town southwest of Saskatoon
8. Acquiesce
9. Actress Myrna
10. Embarks on a journey, Amelia Earhart style: 2 wds.
11. "Beauty and the Beast" (1991) character
12. "__ cost you!"
14. Estelle of "The Golden Girls"
17. Music sub genre of Alt-Rock named for floor starers
21. Cape __ (New Brunswick community on the Northumberland Strait)
23. Going-together collection
25. Skin irritation
27. Products by Canadian baking brand Robin Hood: 2 wds.
29. U.K. mil. service
30. Tail-meaning prefix
31. Yellowknife's locale, en francais: Les Territoires du __-__
33. Misery
35. Canadian actor Mr. Cariou
36. Belonging to Nashville's li'l state
38. Jeanne _'__
43. Parisian possessive
46. Type of BIC writing implement: 2 wds.
48. Garden gastropods
49. Reprimand
50. ___ Sketch
52. Canadian musician, Rick __
53. Disney World attraction in Florida
54. Prefix to 'foam'
55. Movie extract
57. Cover the falcon's eyes
60. Pou __ (Vantage point)
61. All bets __ off

Friday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Friday's Sudoku

2	9	3	7	5	6	1	8	4
4	8	6	9	1	3	7	2	5
7	1	5	8	2	4	6	9	3
1	2	7	6	4	5	9	3	8
5	3	8	2	9	1	4	7	6
6	4	9	3	8	7	5	1	2
9	6	4	1	3	2	8	5	7
8	5	2	4	7	9	3	6	1
3	7	1	5	6	8	2	4	9

	4		7		8		5	
3				4				8
	7						3	
		6	2		9	4		
	2	4				5	6	
		7	4		3	2		
	5						1	
8				1				9
	1		3		2		7	

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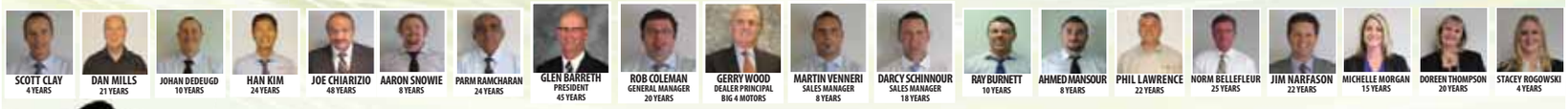

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DAN MILLS 21 YEARS
JOHAN DEDEUGD 10 YEARS
HAN KIM 24 YEARS
JOE CHIARIZIO 48 YEARS
AARON SNOWIE 8 YEARS
PARM RAMCHARAN 24 YEARS
GLEN BARRETH PRESIDENT 45 YEARS
ROB COLEMAN GENERAL MANAGER 20 YEARS
GERRY WOOD DEALER PRINCIPAL BIG 4 MOTORS
MARTIN VENNERI SALES MANAGER 8 YEARS
DARCY SCHINNOUR SALES MANAGER 18 YEARS
RAY BURNETT 10 YEARS
AHMED MANSOUR 8 YEARS
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